

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INT-05 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-04

ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 FEAE-00 OMB-01

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P R 171712Z MAR 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 779

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1857

UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 2705

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S DETERMINATION ON SPECIALTY STEEL

REF: STATE 64134

1. ON MARCH 17, WE DELIVERED TO FIELDING, COMMISSION DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS, THE TEXT OF THE STR ANNOUNCEMENT ON SPECIALTY STEELS AND MADE THE POINTS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 4, REFTEL. FIELDING THANKED US FOR THE STATEMENT, TOOK NOTE OF OUR VERBAL POINTS, AND SAID THAT HE DID NOT WISH TO COMMENT.

2. AT THE REGULAR NOON BRIEFING, THE COMMISSION SPOKESMAN READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION ABOUT THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION: "THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES HAS NOTED WITH PROFOUND REGRET THE DECISION OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO TAKE IMPORT RELIEF MEASURES TO PROTECT THE US SPECIALTY STEEL INDUSTRY. THE COMMUNITY HAS MAINTAINED FROM THE OUTSET THAT SUCH MEASURES WERE WITHOUT ANY JUSTIFICATION AS FAR AS COMMUNITY EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES

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WERE CONCERNED. THE COMMUNITY'S VIEWS IN THIS RESPECT WERE

CONVEYED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AS RECENTLY AS 24 FEBRUARY BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE COMMISSION. THE COMMISSION WILL IMMEDIATELY REVIEW WITH THE COUNCIL ALL ASPECTS OF WHAT IS NOW A NEW SITUATION."

3. AFTER READING THIS STATEMENT, THE SPOKESMAN REVIEWED THE HISTORY OF THE PETITION AND THE DETERMINATION BY THE INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION. HE MENTIONED THE TRADE COMMISSION'S FINDINGS INDICATING A 25 PERCENT RATE OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND AN INDUSTRY OPERATING AT A VERY LOW RATE OF CAPACITY. IN ADDITION, HE PASSED OUT BACKGROUND INFORMATION, TAKEN PRINCIPALLY FROM THE ITC REPORT, SHOWING US IMPORT AND PRODUCTION FIGURES COVERING THE PERIOD 1970-1975. HINTON

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Message Attributes

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